



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
1 ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING
UNIT 37101
FPO AP 96603-7101

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5800
17

19 FEB 2001

COMMANDING GENERAL'S POLICY LETTER 4-01

From: Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing

Subj: 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING (1ST MAW) POLICY ON
DRINKING AND DRIVING

Ref: (a) MCO P1070.12J (IRAM)
(b) MCO P5300.12A (SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM)
(c) MCBJ/III MEF Policy Letter 3-99

1. Purpose. To establish policy for revoking the driving privileges of 1st MAW Marines, Sailors, family members, and civilian government employees who drink and drive.

2. Background. Authorization to drive in Japan or aboard any Department of Defense (DOD) installation is a privilege that will not be retained by those who drink and drive and thereby needlessly place innocent lives at risk.

3. Policy. All Commanders having reasonable grounds to believe that a Marine or Sailor of his command has been driving while impaired by alcohol at any geographic location will immediately notify the offender that his authorization to drive aboard DOD installations is revoked. Where applicable, this suspension includes all Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) driving privileges.

a. Refusing to take or failing any sobriety test is grounds for suspension. With the exceptions noted below, a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) of .04 or lower is considered passing and is usually not grounds for suspension, while a BAC of .05 or higher is considered failing and is always grounds for suspension. However, there may be an occasion when a driver with a "passing" BAC may nevertheless warrant suspension of driving privileges for safety reasons alone. Per reference (c), a commander already has the authority to revoke driving privileges purely for safety-related reasons.

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b. Commanders will revoke the driving privileges of anyone under the legal drinking age of 21 caught driving a vehicle with any BAC (.01 or higher).

c. Commanders will document all suspensions to their Group Commanders. Group Commanders will provide a letter documenting the suspension to the offender with copies to Provost Marshall Office (PMO) and Commanding General (CG) 1st MAW Staff Judge Advocate (SJA).

d. Suspension of driving privileges per this policy letter triggers mandatory OQR/SRB page 11 counseling entries per references (a) and (b). Commanders will utilize the sample page 11 entry provided by the references and include the following language: "Per CG's policy, SNM's authorization to drive has been revoked for the remainder of tour with 1st MAW." As required by reference (b), Commanders will include the BAC level in the page 11 entry.

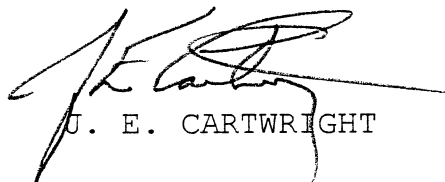
e. Commanders will ensure that PMO either removes stickers from the offender's registered vehicles or appropriately marks stickers to identify authorization only to other family members who are permitted to drive aboard military installations.

f. CG, 1st MAW retains the sole authority to grant exceptions or waivers to this policy. Requests for exceptions and waivers will be forwarded via the chain of command.

g. Suspension/revocation of driving privileges will remain in force for the duration of the member's 1st MAW assignment.

h. The effective date of this policy is 1 January 2001. All cases dating back to that date are subject to this policy.

4. When the offender is a 1st MAW civilian government employee or family member, Commanders will forward a letter via the chain of command (attn: SJA) to the respective installation commander requesting revocation of the offender's driving privileges for the duration of the employee's assignment or sponsor's tour with 1st MAW.



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